Amendment to IDRA, 1951

826. SHRI SATISHCHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations from industrial organisations seeking replacement/ amendment of Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 (IDRA) in tune with the ongoing liberalisation in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the changes sought;

(c) the reaction of Government thereto; and

(d) the details of action taken/proposed thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) to (d) From time to time, suggestions are received from Industry Associations for changes in industrial policy and the legal framework.

The Ministry of Industry has taken up the review of Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 and constituted an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion for the purpose.

Setting up of industries In Himachal Pradesh

827. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by Government to encourage setting up of industries in Himachal Pradesh, district-wise;

(b) the number of Centrally assisted industries in Himachal Pradesh;

(c) the number of proposal pending with Government for investment in Himachal Pradesh;

(d) by when these are likely to be cleared; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) Various steps have been taken by Government to encourage industrial growth in Himachal Pradesh, which include, inter-alia;

(i) All the 12 districts of Himachal Pradesh have been declared industrially backward by the Government of India.

(ii) Himachal Pradesh has been allotted one growth centre in distric? Kangra where central assistance of Rs. 450.00 lakhs has been released so far.

(iii) Central Transport Subsidy Scheme has been extended to all eligible units for a period of five years from the date of commencement of commercial production.

(iv) Income tax holiday for a period of five years for such industries which are to be set up upto 31-3-2000.

(v) The Central Government has taken various initiatives for promotion of small scale industries. In Himachal Pradesh 2 Integrated Infrastructure Development Centres have been sanctioned at village Bhamla, Distt. Mandi and Village Gwalthai, Distt. Bilaspur.

(b) A 600 TPA cement plant of Cement Corporation of India at Rajban district Girmour is being assisted by the Central Government.

(c) No proposal is pending with the Government for investment in Himachal Pradesh.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.